

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 327
By Goins

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Coach David Hamilton and the great 1996-1997 J. Frank White Academy boys' basketball team on reaching the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class A substate game.

WHEREAS, despite being unheralded at the start of the season, the excellent 1996-1997 J. Frank White Academy boys' basketball team has worked very hard and displayed unrelenting determination and extraordinary skill en route to reaching the coveted Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class A substate plateau in only their second year of Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association competition; and

WHEREAS, almost everyone, except their most diehard fans, picked the Academy to finish in the District 2-A cellar, BUT they shocked the so-called experts by making a strong challenge for the district title; they finished runner-up to powerful Oneida, with an admirable 8-4 mark; and

WHEREAS, in the dramatic Region 1-A Tournament, the Knights finished runner-up once again, beating University High of Johnson City 63-61, on a last second shot by Ryan Baltrip and Hancock County 52-50, on a last second shot by Joey Quillen; and

WHEREAS, their exceptional 23-10 record showed amazing improvement over last season's 9-14 mark. Their record represents an enviable winning percentage of .697; and

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WHEREAS, their highly regarded coach, David Hamilton who was the District 2-A Coach of the Year, has done a superb job of inspiring the players to perfect their skills and teaching them the lessons of life, and he has also served as an inspirational mentor. He had a very capable Assistant Coach, Garry Bingham; and

WHEREAS, the team was led by sensational senior shooting star Joey Quillen, who averaged an exemplary 19 points and 5 rebounds per game and was selected Honorable Mention All-State, All-Region and District 2-A Most Valuable Player. This tremendously talented team also included stars Jay Majumdar, an All-Region and All-District 2-A choice and Andrew Johnson and Ryan Baltrip, All-District 2-A honorees; and

WHEREAS, each of the other members of the team made significant contributions to its success. They were: Isaac Cadle, Alex Cook, Brad Mars, Chris Brooks, Jay Mappala, Matthew Cose, John Michael Robertson, Dennis Bailey, and Ben Bingham; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that we pause to salute this outstanding group of athletes and role models; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Coach David Hamilton and the 1996-1997 J. Frank White Academy boys' basketball team and wish them much continued success in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That 18 copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation, with this final clause omitted from such copies.